

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,  
and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

38  
21 (currently amended). A device for equalizing relative displacements changes in level between a ground area surface extending over a ground structure and a frame (5) provided for closing means of an installation projecting into a ground structure therebelow (1), comprising a plate-shaped dragging body (6) connected to the closing means frame [(5), 1] and projecting horizontally into the ground structure below a carrying layer thereof so as to transfer the changes in level occurring there to the closing means frame (5), characterized in that the plate-shaped dragging body being (6) is designed as a separate structural element which supports the closing means frame (5) by its on an upper side and that the plate-shaped dragging body (6) projects into the ground structure below a carrying layer (7) thereof.

22 (currently amended). A device according to claim 21, characterized in that wherein at least one telescope part (11, 11') variably extending the installation in upward direction extends from the plate-shaped dragging body (6) downwards into

the respective installation (17).

<sup>2</sup>  
~~23~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~22~~, characterized in that wherein the telescope part ~~(11, 11')~~ is non-positively frictionally connected to the plate-shaped dragging body (6).

<sup>4</sup>  
~~24~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~22~~, characterized in that wherein telescope part ~~(11)~~ with its has a lower portion slidingly engages the engaging an outer side of a stationary body (17) connected to the installation (17).

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cont  
<sup>5</sup>  
~~25~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>4</sup>~~24~~, characterized in that wherein the stationary body (17) is non-positively frictionally connected to the installation (17) via by an equalization fastening element (16).

<sup>6</sup>  
~~26~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~22~~, characterized in that wherein the telescope part (11) with its has a lower portion slidingly engages the engaging an inner side of a guide body <sup>2</sup>~~(12)~~ connected to the installation (17).

<sup>7</sup>  
~~27~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>6</sup>~~26~~, characterized in that wherein the guide body (12) is connected to the installation (17) via by an equalizing fastening element (18).

<sup>8</sup>  
~~28~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~22~~,  
~~characterized in that two wherein the telescope parts (11, 11')~~  
~~are part has two portions~~ arranged one above the other, the an  
upper one (11') of which is connected to the plate-shaped  
dragging body (6), and the a lower one (11') slidably engaging  
on engages <sup>a</sup> guide body (12) connected to the installation (1).

<sup>9</sup>  
~~29~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~22~~,  
characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the telescope part (11')  
slidably engages an upper stationary body part (17A) connected  
to a ~~an e.g.~~ bellows-type or corrugated deformation element  
(17C).

<sup>10</sup>  
~~30~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>9</sup>~~29~~,  
characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the deformation element (17C) is  
externally surrounded by a protective shell (17D).

<sup>11</sup>  
~~31~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~22~~,  
characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the telescope part (11, 11') is  
connected to the plate-shaped dragging body (6) ~~via~~ by an  
element (27) for level equalization.

<sup>12</sup>  
~~32~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>2</sup>~~22~~,  
characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the closing means frame (5, 13,  
13') is supported on the plate-shaped dragging body (6) ~~via~~ by  
an element (26) for level equalization.

<sup>13</sup>  
~~33~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>1</sup>~~21~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the closing means frame ~~(5, 13,~~  
~~13)~~ is connected to the plate-shaped dragging body ~~(6)~~ via by  
an equalizing fastening element (16).

<sup>14</sup>  
~~34~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>1</sup>~~21~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the plate-shaped dragging body  
~~(6)~~ has an abutment web ~~(35)~~ located externally of the closing  
means frame ~~(5, 13, 13)~~.

<sup>15</sup>  
~~35~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>1</sup>~~21~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the dragging body ~~(6)~~ is formed  
as an annular plate.

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cont  
<sup>16</sup>  
~~36~~ (currently amended). A device according to claim <sup>1</sup>~~21~~,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the plate-shaped dragging body  
~~(6)~~ preferably is provided with radially extending stiffening  
ribs ~~(24)~~.

[ Claims 37 40 (canceled). ]

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<sup>17</sup>  
~~41~~ (new). A method for mounting a device for equalizing  
changes in level between a ground area surface extending over a  
ground structure and a frame for closing means of an  
installation projecting into a ground structure therebelow,  
comprising a plate-shaped dragging body connected to the

closing means frame and projecting horizontally into the ground structure below a carrying layer thereof so as to transfer the changes in level to the closing means frame, the plate-shaped dragging body being a separate structural element which supports the closing means frame on an upper side thereof, which comprises the steps of

- (a) placing a spacer on the installation or a stationary body connected thereto before the ground structure is completed by applying the carrying layer,
- (b) placing a telescope part over the spacer,
- (c) covering the telescope part, and completing and compacting the ground structure below the carrying layer,
- (d) thereafter uncovering the telescope part, and placing the plate-shaped dragging body over the telescope part, and
- (e) then applying the carrying layer over the plate-shaped dragging body.

*B9*  
*write*  
<sup>18</sup>  
~~42~~ (new). The mounting method of claim <sup>12</sup>~~41~~, wherein the telescope part is covered by engaging the telescope part with a cover.

<sup>19</sup>  
~~43~~ (new). The mounting method of claim <sup>18</sup>~~42~~, wherein the cover is scaled to the telescope part.